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TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER, 1944

Westminster, 17th November, 1944.

This day, the Lords being met, a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them that *The Lords, authorised by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by His Majesty, for declaring His Royal Assent to the Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read;* and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Chancellor, and several other Lords therein named, do declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Acts, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to:—

- Matrimonial Causes (War Marriages) Act, 1944.
- Diplomatic Privileges (Extension) Act, 1944.
- Prolongation of Parliament Act, 1944.
- Ministry of National Insurance Act, 1944.
- Town and Country Planning Act, 1944.

*Crown Office, House of Lords.
17th November, 1944.*

The KING has been pleased by Letters Patent under the Great Seal to present The Rev. Frank Eric Cottrell, B.A., to the United Benefice of Packington with Normanton-le-Heath in the County of Leicester and Diocese of Leicester void by the resignation of the last Incumbent and in His Majesty's Gift for this alternate turn.

The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury hereby give notice that they have made an Order under Section 20 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 1940, entitled the Purchase Tax (Alteration of Rates) (No. 2) Order, 1944, directing that as from the 6th December, 1944, the Purchase Tax on articles being, or comprising, buttons made wholly of mother of pearl, or being studs made wholly of mother of pearl, shall be reduced from 100% to the basic rate of 33½%.

The Order has been published as Statutory Rules and Orders 1944 No. 868, and may be purchased price 1d. net from His Majesty's Stationery Office at the following addresses:—York House, Kingsway, London, W.2; 13a, Castle Street, Edinburgh 2; 39-41, King Street, Manchester 2; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 80, Chichester Street, Belfast; or through any bookseller.

Notice is hereby given that further Regulations have been made by the Public Works Loan Commissioners with the approval of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury under Section 41 of the Public Works Loans Act, 1875. These Regulations, which appeared in the London Gazette on the 22nd September, 1944, have now been published as Statutory Rules and Orders, 1944, No. 1251 and shall take effect from the 1st December, 1944, from

which date the Regulations made on the 28th day of November, 1939, and the ninth Regulation made on the 1st day of April, 1876, under the Public Works Loans Act, 1875, shall be rescinded.

Copies of the Regulations may be purchased direct from His Majesty's Stationery Office at the following addresses:—York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 13a, Castle Street, Edinburgh 2; 39-41, King Street, Manchester 2; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 80, Chichester Street, Belfast; or through any bookseller.

Foreign Office, 20th November, 1944.

The KING has been pleased to grant unrestricted permission for the wearing by the undermentioned persons of the decorations respectively indicated, which have been conferred upon them by His Majesty the King of Yugoslavia in recognition of services rendered by them during the war:—

Order of St. Sava, Third Class.

- Sybil, Lady Colefax.
- Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Thomas Russell Albert Mason Cook, M.P.
- Miss Ethel Frances Robinson.

Order of the White Eagle, Fifth Class.

- Miss Constance Margaret Marx.

Order of St. Sava, Fifth Class.

- Miss Dorothy Harford,
- Anna Paton, Mrs. Walsh.

Whitehall, November 9, 1944.

The KING has been pleased to award the Edward Medal to Frank Emery Nix in recognition of his gallantry in the following circumstances:—

On the 18th April at 4.30 a.m. a "Bump" occurred at the coal face on which Mr. Ernest Vickers and a workmate were cutting coal with a compressed air machine, as a result of which the flammer over the bars from the left side end of the machine was broken for a distance of 35 yards, the roof lowering about 8 inches. The bar over Mr. Vickers lowered under the weight of the flammer and pinned his head against the edge of the conveyor pans. Mr. Vickers shouted and signalled by knocking on the pans, and his workmate stopped the machine, and, as he was unable to pass the machine to go to Mr. Vickers' assistance, shouted to Mr. Nix and then went round the roadways about 2,500 yards with another man to give what help he could.

Mr. Nix had three men with him behind the machine, two of whom slid down the pans and placed a prop in order to take the weight off Mr. Vickers' head. Mr. Nix followed them down but, seeing that nearly all the props within ten yards of the accident were broken, sent them back and himself went along to where Mr. Vickers was trapped. With the aid